

2025-2026 Legislative Session

League End of Session Legislation Summary

- **[Act 242 \(AB 219\): Tax Credit for Rail Infrastructure Modernization](#)** - Reps. Novak (R-Dodgeville) and Tranel (R-Cuba City) and Sen. Quinn (R-Birchwood) - This legislation creates an income and franchise tax credit for Class II and Class III railroads in the state to modernize rail infrastructure. Specifically, 50% of the amounts expended by the railroad for maintenance may be claimed or, if the entity does not have tax liability, may be transferred. Additionally, 50% of the amounts expended on new rail infrastructure and improvements may also be claimed. The legislation sets qualification requirements and processes for claiming the credits. *The League has registered **in-favor** of this legislation and appreciates the authors and stakeholders working to introduce an amendment that includes municipalities as eligible entities for transferring credits.*

 - *Final Status:* The full Senate passed the bill as amended on a 32-1 vote on Wednesday, January 21st, the full Assembly passed the bill as amended by Assembly Substitute Amendment 1 on a 99-0 vote on Tuesday, January 13th, and the legislation was signed into law by Governor Evers as **2025 Wisconsin Act 242** on Thursday, April 9th.

- **[Act 239 \(AB 454\): Workforce Home Loan Program](#)** - Reps. Rodriguez (R-Oak Creek), Snyder (R-Weston), Knodl (R-Germantown), and Rivera-Wagner (D-Green Bay) and Sens. James (R-Thorp) and Johnson (D-Milwaukee) - This legislation establishes a workforce home loan program at the Wisconsin Housing and Economic Development Authority (WHEDA) to provide gap financing that supplements a conventional mortgage for the purchase of a new single-family residence. Applicants may not have owned a home in the past three years and must meet certain income thresholds to be eligible for a 15 year, 0% interest loan up to \$60,000. *The League has registered **in-favor** of this legislation.*

 - *Final Status:* The full Assembly passed the bill as amended on a voice vote on Thursday, February 19th, the full Senate passed the bill as amended on a 31-2 vote on Tuesday, March 17th, and the legislation was signed into law by Governor Evers as **2025 Wisconsin Act 239** on Wednesday, April 8th.

- **[Act 238 \(AB 375\): Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credit Modifications](#)** - Rep. Armstrong (R-Rice Lake) and Sen. Feyen (R-Fond du Lac) - Under state and federal law, a taxpayer may receive a credit for certain expenses to rehabilitate certified historic structures. This legislation makes modifications to the state program. First, it clarifies that so long as the claimant has expended \$50,000 or more on the rehabilitation, they may receive the 20% credit, avoiding additional federal requirements on investment thresholds. Second, it removes the requirement that the State Historic Preservation Officer recommend improvements to the US Secretary of the Interior. Third, it allows the full state credit to be claimed in one year as opposed to five. Finally, it clarifies that the \$3.5 million cap on credits only applies within a single ten-year period. *The League has registered **in-favor** of this legislation.*

 - *Final Status:* The full Assembly passed the bill as amended on a 97-0 vote on Wednesday, November 19th, the full Senate passed the bill as amended on a 31-2 vote on Tuesday, March

17th, and the legislation was signed into law by Governor Evers as **2025 Wisconsin Act 238** on Wednesday, March 8th.

- **[Act 237 \(AB 194\): Modifications to the Housing Loan Programs](#)** - Reps. Armstrong (R-Rice Lake) and Brooks (R-Saukville) and Sens. Quinn (R-Birchwood), Feyen (R-Fond du Lac), and Jagler (R-Watertown) - Last session, with the League as one of a handful of groups at the table, the state made a historic investment of \$525 million for the development of housing across Wisconsin through three low-interest loan programs at the Wisconsin Housing and Economic Development Authority (WHEDA). However, an 11th hour amendment added to those bills made implementation problematic for developers. Despite some early successes, the problems created by the amendment last session became increasingly evident. As a result, this subsequent legislation was needed to address the significant barriers to these programs and unlock additional housing opportunities throughout the state. This includes allowing loans to be stacked with tax incremental districts and historic tax credits, increasing maximum loan amounts, allowing a smaller number of units in municipalities at or under 10,000 residents and allowing mixed-use developments to qualify for the Vacancy-to-Vitality Program, and ensuring statewide distribution of loan funds. Additionally, this legislation adjusts the housing cost-reduction requirements for municipalities from those implemented in 2023 back to 2020 providing greater flexibility with a longer look back. *The League has registered in-favor of this legislation.*
 - *Final Status:* The full Assembly passed the bill as amended on a voice vote on Tuesday, October 7th, the full Senate passed the bill as amended on a voice vote on Tuesday, March 17th, and the legislation was signed into law by Governor Evers as **2025 Wisconsin Act 237** on Wednesday, April 8th.
- **[Act 236 \(AB 182\): Low-Income Housing Tax Credit Program Changes](#)** - Rep. Armstrong (R-Rice Lake) and Sen. Quinn (R-Birchwood) - This legislation makes several modifications to the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit Program at WHEDA, including requiring that at least 35% of the tax credits allocated each year are for qualified projects in rural areas of Wisconsin if enough applications are available to satisfy the requirement. Other changes to the program remove a requirement that a project is financed with tax-exempt bonds and allows insurers that are shareholders of a tax-option corporation, a partner of a partnership, or a member of a limited liability corporation to claim the credit. *The League has registered in-favor of this legislation.*
 - *Final Status:* The full Assembly passed the bill as amended on a 99-0 vote on Tuesday, January 13th, the full Senate passed the bill as amended on a 30-3 vote on Tuesday, March 17th, and the legislation was signed into law by Governor Evers as **2025 Wisconsin Act 236** on Wednesday, April 8th.
- **[Act 235 \(SB 480\): Workforce Housing TIDs](#)** - Sen. Feyen (R-Fond du Lac) and Rep. Armstrong (R-Rice Lake) - This legislation allows municipalities to create residential tax incremental districts (TIDs). A residential TID would be developer-financed with eligible expenses limited to the infrastructure necessary for dense new single-family or duplex residential developments meeting certain requirements. These residential TIDs would be capped at 3% of the total equalized value of a municipality and are exempt from the 12% threshold. *The League has registered in-favor of this legislation.*
 - *Final Status:* The full Senate passed the bill as amended on a 30-3 vote on Wednesday, February 11th, the full Assembly passed the bill as amended on a voice vote Thursday, February 19th, the full Senate concurred with the Assembly's amendment on Tuesday, March 17th, and the legislation was signed into law by Governor Evers as **2025 Wisconsin Act 235** on Wednesday, April 8th.

- **Act 212 (SB 181): Levy Limit Exemption for Regional (County-Sized) EMS Districts** - Sens. Marklein (R-Spring Green) and James (R-Thorp) and Reps. Kurtz (R-Wonewoc) and Gustafson (R-Fox Crossing) - This legislation creates a new levy limit exemption for regional EMS provided through intergovernmental agreements or a district that covers at least 232 square miles or includes at least eight cities, villages, and towns. If one entity is responsible for EMS across a qualifying service territory as established by a district governing body and if a referendum is passed across the proposed district, the costs could be exempt from levy limits and allowed to grow at a rate equal to the growth in the Consumer Price Index plus 2% annually. To maintain the exemption, the district would need to pass a new referendum every five years. This legislation, and its service territory parameters, are meant to mimic county-wide EMS which is exempt from the levy but allows for municipalities to determine their own service territories that cover a county-sized area (232 square miles being the smallest county by land size and eight municipalities being the smallest number in any county). *The League has registered **against** this legislation as amended. While we appreciate the authors' intent, we are opposed to the substitute amendment which makes the process unworkable. Failure to pass a referenda every five years could result in EMS interruptions, EMT layoffs, contract disruptions, and debt defaults.*
 - *Final Status:* The full Senate passed the bill as amended on a 30-3 vote on Wednesday, January 21st, the full Assembly passed the bill as amended on a 92-1 vote on Thursday, February 19th, and the legislation was signed into law by Governor Evers as **2025 Wisconsin Act 212** on Wednesday, April 8th.
- **Act 211 (SB 96): Amending the EV Charging Stations Law** - Sen. Marklein (R-Spring Green) and Rep. VanderMeer (R-Tomah) - This legislation makes a technical correction to last session's electric vehicle (EV) charging stations law which the League supported. Specifically, an oversight in the bill passed last session exempted the EV charging station tax of 3 cents per kilowatt-hour for Level 3 fast chargers placed at a residence but allowed the tax for slower chargers. This legislation exempts the tax collection from all EV charging at a residence. *The League has registered **in-favor** of this legislation.*
 - *Final Status:* The full Senate passed the bill on a 33-0 vote on Thursday, May 15th, the full Assembly passed the bill on a 96-0 vote on Thursday, January 15th, and the legislation was signed into law by Governor Evers as **2025 Wisconsin Act 211** on Wednesday, April 8th.
- **Act 201 (AB 131): Programs and Policies to Address PFAS** - Reps. Mursau (R-Crivitz) and Swearingen (R-Rhineland) and Sen. Wimberger (R-Oconto) - Similar to a bill supported by the League last session after working with the authors on an amendment to address municipal concerns, this legislation would exempt municipalities and certain other parties from liability for PFAS remediation under certain circumstances and conditions. The legislation also establishes a PFAS Community Grant Program to assist with capital and operational costs related to PFAS, exempts certain emergency water utility actions to address PFAS from Public Service Commission approvals, and establishes other programs and policies related to PFAS. *The League has registered **in-favor** of this legislation.*
 - *Final Status:* The full Assembly passed the bill as amended on a 93-0 vote on Friday, February 20th, the full Senate passed the bill as amended on a 33-0 vote on Tuesday, March 17th, and the legislation was signed into law by Governor Evers as **2025 Wisconsin Act 201** on Monday, April 6th.
- **Act 200 (AB 130): Liability Exemptions for PFAS Contamination** - Reps. Mursau (R-Crivitz) and Swearingen (R-Rhineland) and Sen. Wimberger (R-Oconto) - This legislation provides funding for the programs created by Act 201 (above). This includes roughly \$80 million for the PFAS Community Grant Program and approximately \$53 million remaining in the PFAS Trust Fund established in the previous budget for other programs and staffing. *The League has registered **in-favor** of this legislation.*

- *Final Status:* The full Assembly passed the bill as amended on a 93-0 vote on Friday, February 20th, the full Senate passed the bill as amended on a 33-0 vote on Tuesday, March 17th, and the legislation was signed into law by Governor Evers as **2025 Wisconsin Act 200** on Monday, April 6th.
- **Act 194 (AB 768): Operation of Drones Over Critical Infrastructure** - Rep. Donovan (R-Greenfield) and Sen. Tomczyk (R-Mosinee) - This legislation prohibits the unauthorized operation of a drone at an altitude of less than 300 feet over or within 500 feet of a parcel on which certain critical infrastructure facilities are located. These facilities include water and wastewater treatment plants, gas or electric power plants, petroleum refineries, and telecommunications carrier plants. The prohibitions do not apply to a drone flown at the direction of a local government in its jurisdiction for official business. Persons violating this prohibition may have their drone seized and may be subject to a forfeiture of not more than \$5,000. *The League has registered in-favor of this legislation.*
 - *Final Status:* The full Assembly passed the bill as amended on an 85-14 vote on Tuesday, February 17th, the full Senate passed the bill as amended on a voice vote on Tuesday, March 17th, and the legislation was signed into law by Governor Evers as **2025 Wisconsin Act 194** on Friday, April 3rd.
- **Act 188 (AB 217): Local Government Competitive Bidding Thresholds** - Reps. O'Connor (R-Fond du Lac) and Brooks (R-Saukville) and Sen. Tomczyk (R-Mosinee) - Under current law, local governments must competitively bid all projects above \$25,000 and award the contract to the lowest responsible bidder and must provide public notice for all projects between \$5,000 and \$25,000. This legislation increases the bidding threshold to \$50,000 and the notice threshold to \$10,000 for all public construction projects except roadwork projects. *The League has registered in-favor of this legislation.*
 - *Final Status:* The full Assembly passed the bill as amended on a voice vote on Tuesday, February 17th, the full Senate passed the bill as amended on a voice vote on Tuesday, March 17th, and the legislation was signed into law by Governor Evers as **2025 Wisconsin Act 188** on Thursday, April 2nd.
- **Act 183 (SB 376): Tax Credit for Employer's Childcare Expenses** - Sen. Feyen (R-Fond du Lac) and Rep. Armstrong (R-Rice Lake) - Under federal law, employers are eligible for a tax credit for employer-provided childcare expenses. These credits may be claimed for up to 25% of qualified expenses for acquiring or constructing a childcare facility and 10% of childcare resource and referral expenses with a maximum credit of \$150,000. This legislation creates an identical nonrefundable income and franchise tax credit in Wisconsin. *The League has registered in-favor of this legislation.*
 - *Final Status:* The full Senate passed the bill as amended on a 33-0 vote on Tuesday, November 18th, the full Assembly passed the bill as amended on a 94-4 vote on Tuesday, February 17th, the full Senate concurred in the Assembly's amendment on a 32-1 vote on Tuesday, March 17th, and the legislation was signed into law by Governor Evers as **2025 Wisconsin Act 183** on Friday, April 3rd.
- **Act 179 (AB 320): Increasing and Indexing Local Court Fees** - Reps. Allen (R-Waukesha), O'Connor (R-Fond du Lac), Donovan (R-Greenfield), and Mursau (R-Crivitz) and Sen. Wanggaard (R-Racine) - This legislation adjusts court fees and surcharges collected by courts and increases fees paid to witnesses, interpreters, and others. The original legislation included adjustments to municipal court fees, but that was removed in lieu of separate legislation. Additionally, the interpreter fee per half day would be raised from a \$10 minimum to \$35. *The League has registered in-favor of this legislation.*
 - *Final Status:* The full Assembly passed the bill as amended on a 65-32 vote on Thursday,

January 22nd, the full Senate passed the bill as amended on a 31-2 vote on Wednesday, February 11th, the full Assembly concurred in the Senate's new amendment on a voice vote on Wednesday, February 18th, and the legislation was signed into law by Governor Evers as **2025 Wisconsin Act 179** on Friday, April 3rd.

- **[Act 173 \(AB 453\): Densities in Comprehensive Planning, Rezoning Requests, and Affordable Housing TID Extensions](#)** - Rep. Armstrong (R-Rice Lake) and Sen. Jagler (R-Watertown) - This legislation requires municipalities that have identified land for future residential development in their comprehensive plan to indicate the minimum and maximum densities of that land in five-year increments. If a developer submits a rezoning request for land identified for future residential development, the request shall be granted by a municipality within 90 days if it falls within the density range for that increment and certain other conditions are met. This legislation also increases the affordable housing tax incremental district (TID) extension from one year to two years and redefines newly platted residential development to allow TIDs established for mixed-use redevelopment efforts to utilize the available TIF structure. *The League has registered as **neutral** on this legislation and appreciates the authors and stakeholders working to alleviate some municipal concerns.*
 - *Final Status:* The full Assembly passed the bill as amended on a 55-39 vote on Tuesday, October 7th, the full Senate passed the bill as amended on a 28-5 vote on Wednesday, February 18th, the full Assembly concurred in the Senate's amendment on a voice vote on Thursday, February 19th, and the legislation was signed into law by Governor Evers as **2025 Wisconsin Act 173** on Thursday, April 2nd.
- **[Act 172 \(SB 798\): Assured Wetland Delineators](#)** - Sen. Felzkowski (R-Tomahawk) and Rep. Mursau (R-Crivitz) - Currently, the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) operates a pilot program wherein certified professionals may conduct wetland delineation without a site visit from the DNR. The reports generated may be utilized for wetland permitting decisions. This legislation makes that pilot program permanent and establishes the framework for professionals performing delineations, including the effect of a report produced by an assured delineator, certification requisites, and professional conduct requirements. *The League has registered **in-favor** of this legislation.*
 - *Final Status:* The full Senate passed the bill as amended on a voice vote on Wednesday, February 11th, the full Assembly passed the bill as amended on a voice vote on Wednesday, February 18th, the full Senate concurred in the Assembly's amendment on a voice vote on Tuesday, March 17th, and the legislation was signed into law by Governor Evers as **2025 Wisconsin Act 172** on Thursday, April 2nd.
- **[Act 171 \(AB 911\): Funding for the Battery Stewardship Program](#)** - Rep. Kitchens (R-Sturgeon Bay) and Sen. Tomczyk (R-Mosinee) - This legislation is a trailer bill to SB 702 and AB 713, also supported by the League, to establish a battery stewardship program to reduce battery fires in the waste stream. This legislation creates the necessary financial structure for the Department of Natural Resources to collect the annual fees and administer the program. *The League is registered **in-favor** of this legislation.*
 - *Final Status:* The full Assembly passed the bill as amended on a 97-0 vote on Wednesday, February 18th, the full Senate passed the bill as amended on a 33-0 vote on Tuesday, March 17th, and the legislation was signed into law by Governor Evers as **2025 Wisconsin Act 171** on Thursday, April 2nd.
- **[Act 170 \(AB 713\): Battery Stewardship Program](#)** - Rep. Kitchens (R-Sturgeon Bay) and Sen. Tomczyk (R-Mosinee) - In response to an increase in lithium ion battery fires in the waste and recycling streams, this legislation creates a battery stewardship program in Wisconsin where certain covered

batteries would be banned from landfill disposal beginning in 2028 and instead must be properly disposed of safe containers at collection facilities established by statewide collection organizations. The collection sites could be local government facilities which may receive grants from the statewide collection organization to facilitate these sites. *The League has registered **in-favor** of this legislation.*

- *Final Status:* The full Assembly passed the bill as amended on a 99-0 vote on Tuesday, February 17th, the full Senate passed the bill as amended on a voice vote on Tuesday, March 17th, and the legislation was signed into law by Governor Evers as **2025 Wisconsin Act 170** on Thursday, April 2nd.

- **Act 169 (AB 605): Landfill Fee Retention for Leachate Treatment** - Rep. Jacobson (R-Mosinee) and Sen. Tomczyk (R-Mosinee) - Under current law, landfills are required to impose an Environmental Repair Fee on waste by the tonnage and remit that fee to the state. This legislation allows a landfill owned by a local government to retain their Environmental Repair Fee amounts to repay a Clean Water Fund Program loan received for a wastewater treatment facility installed to treat leachate until the loan is repaid. *The League is registered **in-favor** of this legislation.*

- *Final Status:* The full Assembly passed the bill on a voice vote on Thursday, January 22nd, the full Senate passed the bill on a voice vote on Wednesday, February 11th, and the legislation was signed into law by Governor Evers as **2025 Wisconsin Act 169** on Thursday, April 2nd.

- **Act 163 (SB 556): Local Aids for Energy Storage Facilities** - Sen. James (R-Thorp) and Reps. Rodriguez (R-Oak Creek) and Dittrich (R-Oconomowoc) - Under current law, cities, villages, towns, and counties receive Utility Aid Payments for energy generation facilities located in that political subdivision. This legislation extends those aid payments to utility-owned energy storage facilities. Annually, cities and villages would receive two-thirds of the amount calculated by multiplying the facility's megawatt storage capacity by \$1,000 with the remaining one-third provided to counties. *The League has registered **in-favor** of this legislation.*

- *Final Status:* The full Senate passed the bill as amended on a voice vote on Wednesday, February 11th, the full Assembly passed the bill as amended on a voice vote on Thursday, February 12th, and the legislation was signed into law by Governor Evers as **2025 Wisconsin Act 163** on Thursday, April 2nd.

- **Act 161 (AB 679): Weight Limits for Hauling Certain Agricultural Products** - Rep. Jacobson (R-Mosinee) and Sen. Tomczyk (R-Mosinee) - This legislation allows vehicles hauling grain, fertilizer, and feed to be exempt from the weight limits and haul up to 91,000 pounds (as opposed to the current weight limits of 80,000 pounds) if issued a permit from the Wisconsin Department of Transportation. As amended, this legislation restricts overweight vehicles to state highways designated by the state or local roads where permission has been granted in writing from the local governments. *The League has registered as **neutral** on this legislation and thanks the authors for the amendment.*

- *Final Status:* The full Assembly passed the bill as amended on a voice vote on Tuesday, February 17th, the full Senate passed the bill as amended on a voice vote on Tuesday, March 17th, and the legislation was signed into law by Governor Evers as **2025 Wisconsin Act 161** on Thursday, April 2nd.

- **Act 148 (AB 192): Fatality Review Teams** - Rep. Moses (R-Menomonie) and Sen. James (R-Thorp) - While not addressed in current law, several areas of the state have established fatality review teams, which are a multidisciplinary and multiagency team reviewing one or more types of death among children and adults and developing recommendations to prevent future deaths of similar circumstances. These deaths may include an overdose, suicide, material death, unexpected death or a child, and more.

This legislation creates a statutory framework for these teams, allowing but not requiring a team's creation, and governs its responsibilities, ability to access certain records, confidentiality requirements, and disclosure of the information. *The League has registered **in-favor** of this legislation.*

- *Final Status:* The full Assembly passed the bill as amended on a voice vote on Thursday, February 19th, the full Senate passed the bill as amended on a voice vote on Tuesday, March 17th, and the legislation was signed into law by Governor Evers as **2025 Wisconsin Act 148** on Thursday, April 2nd.

- **Act 120 (AB 737): Neighborhood Improvement Districts for Residential Developments** - Rep. Armstrong (R-Rice Lake) and Sen. Felzkowski (R-Tomahawk) - Under current law, municipalities may create a Neighborhood Improvement District (NID) upon a petition from landowners in the proposed territory to assess special assessments that are collected for the NID board to carry out the projects in their operating plan. This legislation allows for the establishment of a NID utilizing special assessments to fund infrastructure related to residential developments within the NID, with the special assessments being collected with property tax bills and staying with the property after transfer of ownership until the debt is collected per the operating plan. *The League has registered **in-favor** of this legislation thanks the authors for introducing an amendment to address the League's concerns.*
 - *Final Status:* The full Assembly passed the bill as amended on a 64-35 vote on Tuesday, February 17th, the full Senate passed the bill as amended on a 32-1 vote on Wednesday, February 18th, and the legislation was signed into law by Governor Evers as **2025 Wisconsin Act 120** on Friday, March 27th.
- **Act 117 (SB 576): Property Tax Exemption for Campers** - Sen. Cabral-Guevara (R-Appleton) and Rep. Petersen (R-Waupaca) - Under current law, some campers are assessed as real property based on certain characteristics of the camper while others previously assessed as personal property are now exempt. This legislation exempts all prefabricated structures designed to be towed by a motor vehicle and used as seasonal recreational living quarters (i.e., campers) that are located at a licensed campground from being real property. Further, it allows that property to be submitted to the state to be compensated through Personal Property Aids for lost revenues. *The League has registered as **neutral** on this legislation and notes that Personal Property Aid payments are already prorated and this will be another draw on an account that does not meet existing demand.*
 - *Final Status:* The full Senate passed the bill on a 33-0 vote on Wednesday, February 11th, the full Assembly passed the bill on a 99-0 vote on Wednesday, February 18th, and the legislation was signed into law by Governor Evers as **2025 Wisconsin Act 117** on Friday, March 27th.
- **Act 114 (SB 331): ATV, UTV, and Snowmobile Law Changes** - Sen. Marklein (R-Spring Green) and Rep. Mursau (R-Crivitz) - This legislation makes various updates to the laws surrounding ATV, UTV, and snowmobile routes, including eliminating the 1,000-foot bridge maximum for designating ATV or UTV routes if approved by the local government. This legislation also expands the definition of authorized emergency vehicles to include ATVs, UTVs, and snowmobiles for law enforcement and fire departments. *The League has registered **in-favor** of this legislation.*
 - *Final Status:* The full Senate passed the bill as amended on a voice vote on Tuesday, October 14th, the full Assembly passed the bill as amended on a voice vote on Wednesday, February 12th, and the legislation was signed into law by Governor Evers as **2025 Wisconsin Act 114** on Friday, March 20th.
- **Act 113 (AB 443): Municipal Court Fee Increases** - Rep. Kaufert (R-Neenah) and Sen. Wanggaard (R-Racine) - Under current law, municipalities collect a fee of between \$15 and \$38 for municipal court

actions. The fee range has not been raised for a decade. This legislation increases the maximum fees to \$48. The legislation also makes a logistical correction to the statutes to allow a municipal court instead of a municipal judge to collect the fees. *The League has registered in-favor of this legislation.*

- *Final Status:* The full Assembly passed the bill as amended on a 88-11 vote on Tuesday, January 13th, the full Senate passed the bill as amended on a 32-1 vote on Wednesday, February 11th, and the legislation was signed into law by Governor Evers as **2025 Wisconsin Act 113** on Friday, March 20th.

- **Act 78 (AB 280): Business Development Tax Credit Corrections** - Rep. Armstrong (R-Rice Lake) and Sens. Feyen (R-Fond du Lac) and Marklein (R-Spring Green) - 2023 Act 143, which was supported by the League, allows certain workforce housing and childcare capital investments to be eligible for the Business Development Tax Credit when the employer is making those investments for their employees. Beginning on January 1, 2026, this legislation clarifies that the investments may be made to a third-party that will build, own, or operate the housing development or childcare service and removes a requirement that the investment is made only for employees. *The League registered in-favor of this legislation.*
 - *Final Status:* The full Assembly passed the bill as amended by Assembly Amendment 1 on a 92-4 vote on Tuesday, October 7th, the full Senate passed the bill as amended on a 33-0 vote on Tuesday, November 18th, and the legislation was signed into law by Governor Evers as **2025 Wisconsin Act 78** on Tuesday, December 9th.
- **Act 68 (AB 452): Subdivision Plat Approvals** - Rep. Kreibich (R-New Richmond) and Sen. Feyen (R-Fond du Lac) - This legislation makes several changes to municipal requirements for subdivision plat approvals. Among the most notable changes, first, it requires a municipality to provide an opportunity for subdividers to meet informally with municipal officials to discuss a proposal. Second, it requires municipalities to accept preliminary plans and reports along with a preliminary plat and provide feedback on those reports. Third, it prohibits a municipality from requiring the installation of public improvements prior to the approval of a plat but retains the ability to require security for those improvements and conditionally approve plats on the basis of the installation of public improvements following plat approval. Fourth, it changes the purpose of plat approval to be focused on denser development served by pedestrian access and transit. Fifth and finally, it requires the certification of an approved plat within ten days of a subdivider's request. *The League registered as neutral on this legislation and appreciates the work to address several of concerns we raised during the process.*
 - *Final Status:* The full Assembly passed the bill as amended by Assembly Amendment 1 (AA1) on a voice vote on Tuesday, October 7th, the full Senate passed the bill as amended by AA1 and Senate Amendment 1 on a voice vote on Tuesday, November 18th, the full Assembly concurred with Senate Amendment 1 on Wednesday, November 19th, and the legislation was signed into law by Governor Evers as **2025 Wisconsin Act 68** on Tuesday, December 9th.
- **Act 61 (SB 310): Limitations on Local Emergency Power Proclamations** - Sen. Tomczyk (R-Mosinee) and Reps. Jacobson (R-Mosinee) and Ortiz-Velez (D-Milwaukee) - In the event of an emergency, previously, if the governing body of a local government is unable to promptly meet, the chief executive of that local government may exercise their emergency powers by proclamation until the governing body can meet. This legislation limits those proclamations to 60 days and defines who acts as the chief executive in different units of government, including allowing for persons to temporarily act as a chief executive in the event of incapacitation. *The League registered as neutral on this legislation and appreciates the authors working with us to limit the impacts to local units of government.*
 - *Final Status:* The full Senate passed the bill as amended by Senate Amendment 1 on a voice vote on Tuesday, November 18th, the full Assembly passed the bill as amended on a voice vote on

Wednesday, November 19th, and the legislation was signed into law by Governor Evers as **2025 Wisconsin Act 61** on Tuesday, December 9th.

- **[Act 43 \(AB 35\): Allowing Candidates for Certain Offices to Withdraw Candidacy](#)** - Rep. Steffen (R-Howard) and Sen. Wanggaard (R-Racine) - This legislation allows candidates for federal and state office that are elected in the November general elections to withdraw their candidacy. Deadlines to withdrawal are seven business days before the June 10th preceding the partisan primary and the fourth Tuesday in August preceding the general election, which align with the dates for the state to certify and report candidates for these offices to local clerks. Documentation requirements for withdrawal are included. This only impacts the offices listed and does not make changes to the processes for other offices, including local elected offices. *The League registered as **neutral** on this legislation and appreciates the authors introducing an amendment related to timing for clerks and printing ballots.*
 - *Final Status:* The full Assembly passed the bill as amended by Assembly Amendment 1 on a voice vote on Tuesday, June 24th, the full Senate passed the bill as amended on a 19-14 vote on Tuesday, October 14th, and the legislation was signed into law by Governor Evers as **2025 Wisconsin Act 43** on Friday, October 31st.
- **[Act 39 \(SB 159\): Requirements for Police Vehicle Lighting](#)** - Sen. Wanggaard (R-Racine) and Rep. Jacobson (R-Mosinee) - Prior law allowed marked police vehicles to be equipped with flashing, oscillating, or rotating blue and red lights, provided that the blue lights are mounted on the passenger side and the red lights are mounted on the driver side of the vehicle. This legislation specifies that marked police vehicles with an exterior light bar on the roof and lights mounted inside the vehicle match those requirements for blue lights on the passenger side and red lights on the driver side of the vehicle. If the roof and interior lights are installed as specified, a combination of blue and red lights may be mounted on the front, sides, or rear of a police vehicle. *The League registered **in-favor** of this legislation.*
 - *Final Status:* The full Senate passed this legislation on a voice vote on Tuesday, October 14th, the full Assembly passed this legislation on a voice vote on Tuesday, October 14th, and the legislation was signed into law by Governor Evers as **2025 Wisconsin Act 39** on Friday, October 31st.
- **[Act 36 \(SB 183\): Non-Transport EMS Reimbursement, EMT Scope of Practice Report, and ERP Exemption](#)** - Sens. Marklein (R-Spring Green) and James (R-Thorp) and Reps. Kurtz (R-Wonewoc), Zimmerman (R-River Falls), and Summerfield (R-Bloomer) - First, beginning on January 1, 2027, this legislation increases the Medicaid reimbursement for non-transport emergency medical service (EMS) calls to the maximum allowable rate from \$69 to \$175. Second, this legislation requires an annual report to the legislature on the scope of practice of emergency medical technicians (EMT) and responders (EMR) and how changes may impact training. Third, this legislation exempts the growth of charges from existing levy limit exemptions for fire and EMS districts from the calculations for eligibility in the Expenditure Restraint Program (EPR). *The League registered **in-favor** of this legislation.*
 - *Final Status:* The full Senate passed the bill as amended by Senate Amendment 1 on a voice vote on Tuesday, October 14th, the full Assembly passed the bill as amended on a voice vote on Tuesday, October 14th, and the legislation was signed into law by Governor Evers as **2025 Wisconsin Act 36** on Tuesday, October 21st.
- **[Act 35 \(SB 182\): EMS Education Access, Certification Cost Reimbursement, and Creating a Live 911 Pilot](#)** - Sens. Marklein (R-Spring Green) and James (R-Thorp) and Reps. Kurtz (R-Wonewoc), Novak (R-Dodgeville), and Summerfield (R-Bloomer) - First, this legislation creates a grant structure

for technical colleges to train individuals for initial certification or licensure as an EMT or EMR. Second, this legislation creates a reimbursement structure for employers or individuals to receive the costs of their education and materials to become an EMT or EMR. Third, this legislation creates a Live 911 Pilot Program to provide grants that enable real-time video communication between public safety answering points and those calling for emergency services. *The League registered in-favor of this legislation.*

- *Final Status:* The full Senate passed the bill as amended by Senate Amendment 1 on an 18-14 vote on Wednesday, June 18th, the full Assembly passed the bill as amended on a 90-6 vote on Tuesday, October 14th, and the legislation was signed into law by Governor Evers as **2025 Wisconsin Act 35** on Tuesday, October 21st.

NOTE: For the programs to take effect, funding set aside in the 2025-2027 State Budget will need to be released by the Joint Committee on Finance. A total of \$10.6 million was allocated in the budget, including \$3.5 million for reimbursements for initial training costs, \$7.0 million for technical college courses, and \$100,000 for the Live 911 Pilot Program. The technical college funding was released on Thursday, December 11th.

- **Act 28 (AB 61): Penalties for Harm to Police and Fire Dogs** - Rep. Nedweski (R-Pleasant Prairie) and Sen. Wanggaard (R-Racine) - This legislation increases the criminal penalties associated with injuring or killing any animal used by a law enforcement department or fire department to perform official duties. Penalties for actions taken resulting in injury to the animal are raised from a Class I to a Class H Felony, and actions taken resulting in the death of the animal are raised from a Class H to a Class G Felony. *The League registered in-favor of this legislation.*
 - *Final Status:* The full Assembly passed the bill on a voice vote on Thursday, March 13th, the full Senate passed the bill on a voice vote on Wednesday, June 18th, and the legislation was signed into law by Governor Evers as **2025 Wisconsin Act 28** on Friday, August 8th.
- **SB 285 / AB 279 (Completed in Act 15, the Biennial Budget): Talent Recruitment Grants** - Sen. Testin (R-Stevens Point) and Rep. Armstrong (R-Rice Lake) - This legislation creates a Talent Recruitment Grant Program to incentivize households outside of Wisconsin to relocate to municipalities in this state. Local governments and certain nonprofits will be eligible under this legislation to apply to the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation by submitting a plan identifying estimated costs and economic impacts of their efforts to get households to relocate to their municipality. The applicant must match costs by 20% and may not receive more than \$500,000 per year. Half of the award would be provided up front and half upon achieving 50% of its goal. *The League registered in-favor of this legislation.*
 - *2025-2027 State Budget:* \$5.0 million and all necessary programmatic language for Talent Recruitment Grant Program was included in the budget.

NOTE: In effect, the budget action makes the standalone legislation moot as the policy and funding became law in full as a part of the 2025-2027 State Budget (2025 Wisconsin Act 15).
- **SB 231 / AB 231 (Completed in Act 15, the Biennial Budget): Creating a State Film Office and Film Production Tax Credits** - Sens. Bradley (R-New Berlin) and Testin (R-Stevens Point) and Reps. Armstrong (R-Rice Lake), Callahan (R-Tomahawk), and Hurd (R-Wisconsin) - This legislation looks to promote film production in Wisconsin through two different initiatives. First, it creates a State Film Office attached to the Department of Tourism. The Office would administer the second initiative, income and franchise tax credits for film production companies. The tax credits would provide: 1) up to 30% of the salary or wages paid to employees who are Wisconsin residents for the production of film, video, broadcast advertisement, or television production; and 2) up to 30% of production expenses and

amounts spent to purchase personal or real property. No more than \$10 million in tax credits may be claimed in any year. *The League registered **in-favor** of this legislation.*

- *2025-2027 State Budget:* Up to \$5.0 million per year in credits, \$160,200 over the biennium for the State Film Office, and all necessary programmatic language for Film Production Tax Credits and State Film Office was included in the budget.

NOTE: In effect, the budget action makes the standalone legislation moot as the policy and funding became law in full as a part of the 2025-2027 State Budget (2025 Wisconsin Act 15).

- **Vetoed ([AB 880](#)): Nuisance Actions Against Racing Facilities** - Rep. Mursau (R-Crivitz) and Sen. Tomczyk (R-Mosinee) - This legislation prohibits a person, but not including a local government, from taking public nuisance actions against a racing facility if they purchased or made improvements to property within five miles of the racing facility after the racing facility was in operation. Local governments would be prohibited from enacting ordinances to create private causes of public nuisances under these conditions. *The League is registered as **neutral** on this legislation and appreciates the work of the authors and stakeholders to address municipal concerns through an amendment.*
 - *Final Status:* The full Assembly passed the bill as amended on a voice vote on Thursday, February 19th, the full Senate passed the bill as amended on a voice vote on Tuesday, March 17th, and the legislation was vetoed by the Governor on Wednesday, April 8th.
- **Vetoed ([AB 502](#)): Nonconforming Outdoor Advertising Signs** - Reps. Goeben (R-Hobart) and O'Connor (R-Fond du Lac) and Sen. Feyen (R-Fond du Lac) - Under current law, if a highway project will impact a nonconforming outdoor advertising sign, the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) must notify the local government with the regulating ordinance. If the local government petitions WisDOT to condemn the sign, the municipality must pay for the condemnation costs. Under this legislation, a sign impacted by a state or local project with federal or state funds may be repositioned within a local government's borders in a manner approved by the local government. The entity requiring repositioning of the sign must pay the sign owner for the costs to reposition the sign. Current law on condemnation process still applies. *The League has registered **against** this legislation.*
 - *Final Status:* The full Assembly passed the bill on a voice vote on Thursday, January 15th, the full Senate passed the bill on a voice vote on Tuesday, March 17th, and the legislation was vetoed by the Governor on Wednesday, April 8th.
- **Vetoed ([AB 326](#)): Grant Writing and Compliance Assistance** - Reps. Kurtz (R-Wonewoc) and Swearingen (R-Rhineland) and Sen. Marklein (R-Spring Green) - This legislation allows local governments with populations under 7,500 to receive grants of up to \$5,000 to obtain grant writing and compliance assistance services. The program would be available from 2027 to 2030 with two annual award cycles for grants related to public works, utilities, transportation, public safety, and cybersecurity. *The League has registered **in-favor** of this legislation.*
 - *Final Status:* The full Assembly passed the bill as amended on a voice vote on Thursday, February 19th, the full Senate passed the bill as amended on a voice vote on Tuesday, March 17th, and the legislation was vetoed by the Governor on Friday, April 3rd.

NOTE: \$3.0 million in funding was set aside for this program in the 2025-2027 State Budget. With the veto, it is likely the funding will remain untouched and will carry over to the next budget.
- **Vetoed ([AB 248](#)): Vacancies in Appointive State Offices** - Reps. Allen (R-Waukesha) and Maxey (R-New Berlin) and Sens. Bradley (R-New Berlin) and Quinn (R-Birchwood) - Following a Wisconsin Supreme Court decision, the expiration of a term of an appointed official does not create a vacancy until a new appointment is confirmed for a fixed term, thus creating holdover appointments. This legislation

ends the practice of holdover appointments in state positions, creating the vacancy once the term expires rather than once a new appointee is confirmed. *The League has registered as **neutral** on this legislation and appreciates the authors working with us to remove impacts to local appointed offices.*

- *Final Status:* The full Assembly passed the bill as amended on a voice vote on Thursday, February 19th, the full Senate passed the bill as amended on a 17-16 vote on Tuesday, March 17th, and the legislation was vetoed by the Governor on Friday, April 3rd.

- **Vetoed ([SB 291](#)): Childcare Expenses in the Business Development Tax Credit** - Sen. Marklein (R-Spring Green) and Rep. Hurd (R-Wisconsin) - 2023 Wisconsin Act 143, which the League supported, allows certain capital investments in childcare to be eligible for the Business Development Tax Credit. This legislation expands the tax credit to include an amount up to 15% of the business's costs to provide childcare services for employees, including establishing and operating a childcare program for employees, purchasing slots on behalf of employees, reimbursement to employees for childcare expenses, and other similar investments. *The League has registered **in-favor** of this legislation.*
 - *Final Status:* The full Senate passed the bill on a 19-14 vote on Tuesday, November 18th, the full Assembly passed the bill on a 63-31 vote on Thursday, February 19th, and the legislation was vetoed by the Governor on Friday, March 13th.
- **Vetoed ([AB 450](#)): Delaying Implementation of the New Commercial Building Code** - Rep. Penterman (R-Hustisford) and Sen. Hutton (R-Brookfield) - New administrative rules by the Department of Safety and Professional Services implement the 2021 International Building Code (IBC) in Wisconsin. This rule replaces the 2015 IBC standards as Wisconsin's Commercial Building Code. This legislation delays the implementation of the 2021 IBC to only apply to plans submitted after April 1, 2026. *The League registered as **neutral** on this legislation and requested that certainty is provided to municipal officials responsible for plan reviews.*
 - *Final Status:* The full Assembly passed the bill on a voice vote on Tuesday, October 7th, the full Senate passed the bill on a 20-13 vote on Tuesday, November 18th, and the legislation was vetoed by the Governor on Friday, December 5th.